

## LATEST FOREIGN NEWS

HERE FOR ONE YEAR.

## THE FIELD OF SPORT

ages; one and one-quarter miles.  
task won by four lengths, Swiney second  
a length before Isaac Murphy, third

## THE SHOCK TO THE SHAFT.

### A BODY OF EXPERTS EXAMINE THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT'S INJURIES.

**Chance Alarming—Measures to Protect It From a More Disastrous Visitation of Electricity in the Future.**

Prof. Rotand, Johns Hopkins University; Prof. Newcomb, and Prof. Mendenhall, a specialist on aerial electricity, visited the Washington monument yesterday to make an examination of the damage done by lightning, and to consider what measures shall be taken to prevent a repetition of such accidents.

Col. Casey said last evening that though the damage on this occasion was small, it might be the forerunner of a more serious one.

Prof. Rotand, Newcomb, and Mendenhall will confer together, and in a report which it is expected will be given to Col. Casey in a few days, will recommend such measures as they deem necessary.

It is understood that the apparatus for carrying off electricity inside the monument will be repaired.

The work of repairing the damage to the stone in the last course only which is 1/2 inches in thickness and has a crack extending its entire width of 4 feet and 1/2 inches, making a wedge-shaped piece 1/2 inches thick, which is displaced about 1/2 inch, will be begun at once. The error

The chip which was broken from the capsule was dashed to the ground, and has now, together with about a ton of refuse marble chips lying on the ground, which were supposed to be parts of the identical chip from the capsule, been gathered by the relic hunters. The capsule will not be replaced, being found to be only adorned by the splashing of the

AN ELECTRIC EXPERT'S OPINION.  
H. J. Kintner, examiner of the class  
electricity in the patent office, was asked  
by a reporter for THE REPUBLICAN last  
night for his opinion as an expert upon  
the safety of the monument during  
thunder storm.

"In my opinion," he replied, "the monu-  
ment is insufficiently protected from  
lightning for two reasons. By reason  
its great height it offers to an approaching  
storm cloud a surface of sufficient propor-  
tions to receive inductively an enormous

To that held by the cloud, and is therefore liable to attract the opposing electricity from the cloud. The lightning rod has low resistance, than by the direct metal path from the top by a single aluminum wire. Storm clouds are often seen at points high above the tops of the tallest buildings, and the lightning rods point down toward the ground. Such a rupture would probably take place through the stone or concrete to the iron framework below.

The rods are sufficient to protect a large surface of great static capacity, as is well illustrated in the oil regions where the tanks are frequently protected by one tank as ground by several points.

"What is needed to protect the shaft?"

"Three things are absolutely necessary. In such a structure to insure protection against lightning strikes, it is essential to have a series of conductors extending over the entire pyramid or top of the structure and numerous pointed platinum tips on each corner."

series of conductors should be connected to at least two broad copper bands running to damp ground; and there should be at least two intermediate rows of connected tips outside the shaft between the pyramid and a point, say fifty feet from the ground, and both of said rows connected to the aforesaid copper strips.

"What do you suppose the lightning has really done?"

"I venture to prophesy that a critical examination of the monument that I propose to make will disclose one of two things—that the aluminum tip is placed at a blunt angle to the shaft, and that the base of the pyramid is made of its incandescent metal." The physicist silently added for himself:

at a point below the tip, because the steel cloud lay below it and less resistance offered from the cloud through the steel to the metal conductors inside."

**DIRECT TAXES NOT OFFSET**

**A Decision of Much Interest to Certain Southern States.**

Comptroller Durham has just rendered an important decision as to whether or not a refund of the tax on interest is due to the state of Mississippi by the government shall be paid or applied in credit against direct taxes certified as due from said state by a former comptroller. Comptroller Taylor certified that direct taxes apportioned by the act of 1902 were due from the states. The greater portion of these remains unpaid, and the state stands charged with them on the books of the department under this certificate. There is now due to the state on account of commissions on the net

unpaid and charged as stat. Sec. 1769 of the Revised Statutes requires accounting officers to withhold payment from any person who is in arrears to the government, and to make a set-off.

Two questions arise: First, is the tax in its corporate capacity indebted to the United States on account of the deferred taxes? second, if not, how far forward must the present comptroller bound by the certificate of Comptroller Taylor in applying the provisions of section 1769 of the Revised Statutes?

Comptroller Durham holds that under the constitution the direct taxes are

were not an indebtedness of the state's corporate capacity, but that the title of a former comptroller is, under section 191 Revised Statutes and Supreme Court Decisions, binding upon a successor and subject to revision only by Congress or the courts. He decides, therefore, to withhold final action upon the matter until the attention of Congress is called to the same, which will be done in his next annual report to the Senate.

The salute to Senator Logan.  
A salute of eighty-two guns was fired yesterday morning by Capt. Cunningham from

Ex-Speaker Randall has almost recovered from his attack of gout. He expects to leave his home in Philadelphia, his wife and a few

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